



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DOE Honors Nuclear Weapons Patriots of SRS at National Day of Remembrance Program

Aiken, SC (Oct. 30) – In commemoration of a National Day of Remembrance, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) honored past, present and future nuclear weapons program employees of the Savannah River Site (SRS) at a special program held this morning at SRS.

In its near 60-year existence, the Savannah River Site has served as a major cornerstone of America's national defense infrastructure. "Your work in support of nuclear security over these six decades has made important contributions to our national security. You helped end WWII, win the Cold War, and establish the United States as a leader in science, technology and engineering. The SRS workforce continues in that tradition by providing the tools to tackle many of the challenges we face today," said Jeffrey Allison, Savannah River Operations, Manager, addressing a large audience of SRS retirees and current employees.

As the names of over 103,000 past and present employees scrolled across a large screen, Mr. Allison acknowledged, "We recognize that the successes SRS has enjoyed for decades are due in large part to the efforts and achievements of its predecessors who chartered significant scientific breakthroughs in the name of national security. Today we celebrate your legacy of service and recognize your contributions to keep America safe."

The following Members of Congress provided letters of acknowledgement and appreciation to be read at the program: Senator Lindsey Graham (SC); Senator Jim DeMint (SC); Senator Saxby Chambliss (GA); Senator Johnny Isakson (GA); Congressman Joe Wilson (SC); Congressman John Spratt (SC); Congressman Gresham Barrett (SC); Congressman John Barrow (GA); and Congressman Paul Broun (GA).

Remarks were also provided by guest speakers, Dave Cowfer, President, SRS Retirees Association and Mal McKibben, President, SRS Heritage Foundation, Inc.

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At the conclusion of the program, a commemorative marker, paying tribute to the historic service of SRS patriots, was unveiled and will be permanently and prominently displayed at SRS.

“This marker serves as a testament to the dedication and hard work of all SRS employees - past, present, and those to come - who make SRS a model of national commitment,” Mr. Allison said. “Your service, sacrifice and patriotism are held in the highest regard.”

On May 20, the United States Senate unanimously approved a resolution designating October 30, 2009, as a National Day of Remembrance for nuclear weapons program workers and uranium miners, millers and haulers. Earlier this month, the United States House of Representatives approved its own resolution, House Resolution 790, declaring today, October 30, 2009 as a National Day of Remembrance for nuclear workers to be recognized for their contribution, service, and sacrifice towards the defense of our great Nation

To obtain a souvenir CD copy of the SRS National Day of Remembrance event, contact Paul Sauerborn, (803) 952-6658, or paul.sauerborn@srs.gov.

A digital recording of the celebration can be viewed via the following link:

<http://sro.srs.gov/remembrance>

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